

REMARKS

Applicant submits this Amendment in response to a non-final Office Action mailed on November 25, 2003.

Claims 32, 33, 36, 38, and 39 are pending in the Application. Claims 1-24 have been canceled previously. Claims 25-31, 34, 35, and 37 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. Applicant thanks the Examiner for indicating that claims 32, 33, 36, 38, and 39 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. These claims have been accordingly amended.

Applicant makes this Amendment without prejudice or disclaimer. Moreover, Applicant does not make this Amendment to overcome a rejection related to patentability, but rather to expedite prosecution of this application. In making this Amendment, Applicant has added no new matter. Support for the amendments above can be found in the specification and claims as filed.

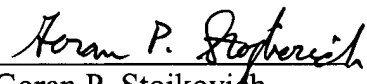
CONCLUSION

Applicant respectfully submits that the pending claims are allowable.

Applicant respectfully solicits the issuance of a timely Notice of Allowance for all pending claims. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone to discuss any matter related to the Application.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: January 21, 2004


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